

UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

DEPARTMENT OF ENERGY

OFFICE OF FOSSIL ENERGY

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CASCADE NATURAL GAS CORPORATION ) FE DOCKET NO. 99-22-NG  
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ORDER AMENDING AUTHORIZATION TO  
IMPORT NATURAL GAS FROM CANADA

DOE/FE ORDER NO. 1474-A

OCTOBER 28, 1999

## I. DESCRIPTION OF REQUEST

On October 26, 1999, Cascade Natural Gas Corporation (Cascade) filed an application with the Office of Fossil Energy of the Department of Energy (DOE), under section 3 of the Natural Gas Act (NGA)<sup>1/</sup> and DOE Delegation Order Nos. 0204-111 and 204-127, to amend its natural gas import authorization granted in DOE/FE Order No. 1474 (Order 1474).<sup>2/</sup> The amendment would increase Cascade's import volumes to 30,000 MMBtu per day and extend its term from November 1, 1999, through October 31, 2000.<sup>3/</sup> In all other respects the terms and conditions of the current authority would remain unchanged.

Cascade is a public utility engaged in the distribution and sale of natural gas in the States of Oregon and Washington. Order 1474 granted Cascade authority to import from Canada up to 25,000 MMBtu per day of natural gas from November 1, 1998, through March 31, 1999, and up to 15,000 MMBtu per day of natural gas from April 1, 1999, through October 31, 1999.

## II. FINDING

The application filed by Cascade has been evaluated to determine if the proposed amendment to its import authorization meets the public interest requirement of section 3 of the NGA, as amended by section 201 of the Energy Policy Act of 1992 (Pub. L. 102-486). Under section 3(c), the import of natural gas from a nation with which there is in effect a free trade agreement requiring national treatment for trade in natural gas is deemed to be consistent with the public interest and must be granted without modification or delay. The proposal by Cascade to

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<sup>1/</sup> 15 U.S.C. § 717b.

<sup>2/</sup> 2 FE ¶ 70,318 (April 6, 1999).

<sup>3/</sup> The contract underlying the amended import arrangement between Cascade and Engage Energy US, L.P. (Engage) is basically a continuation of an import arrangement between Cascade and Engage (See DOE/FE Order No. 877 (1 FE ¶ 70,877)).

amend its authorization to import natural gas from Canada, a nation with which a free trade agreement is in effect, meets the section 3(c) criterion and, therefore, is consistent with the public interest.

ORDER

Pursuant to section 3 of the Natural Gas Act, it is ordered that DOE/FE Order No. 1474 (Order 1474) is amended to increase the currently authorized volumes of natural gas to 30,000 MMBtu per day Cascade Natural Gas Corporation may import from Canada. The term of the authorization is extended from November 1, 1999, through October 31, 2000. All other terms and conditions in Order 1474 remain in full force and effect.

Issued in Washington, D.C., on October 28, 1999.

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